

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION**

**Call to Order:** CHAIRMAN DONALD J. STEINBEISSER, on January 20, 2009 at 3 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Terry Murphy, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Gary Branae (D)  
Sen. Taylor Brown (R)  
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)  
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Joan Linkenbach, Committee Secretary  
Sue O'Connell, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 214, 1/15/2009; SB 204,  
1/15/2009; SJ 11, 1/8/2009

Executive Action: SB 68

**HEARING ON SB 214**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:31 **SEN. DONALD STEINBEISSER (R), SD 19**, opened the hearing on **SB 214**, Increase penalty for cattle theft.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:15 Bret Lesh Carter County Stockgrowers Association (CCSA)  
00:05:49 Willie Duffield, Representing Mark Rehbein Ranch  
00:06:31 Joe Steinbeisser, Vice President Cedar Creek Grazing Association (CCGA)  
00:07:26 Jim Steinbeisser, Montana Dakota Stockgrowers Association (MDSA)

**EXHIBIT(ags13a01)**

00:09:11 Errol Rice, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSA)  
00:11:42 Nichole Rolf, Farm Bureau Association (FBA)  
00:12:38 Gary Amestoy, Richland Economic Development (RED)  
00:13:22 Chris Christiaens, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:14:44 Kathy McGowan, Montana County Attorneys Association and Montana Peace Officers Association (MCAA) (MPOA)  
00:18:27 John Grainger, Department of Livestock (DOL)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:20:22 Sen. Hansen  
00:21:04 Mr. Grainger, DOL  
00:21:45 Sen. Hansen  
00:22:10 Mr. Grainger, DOL  
00:23:14 Sen. Larsen  
00:23:56 Mr. Grainger, DOL  
00:25:26 Sen. Larsen  
00:25:37 Mr. Lesh CCSA  
00:27:37 Sen. Larsen  
00:27:57 Sen. Hamlett  
00:28:20 Mr. Lesh CCSA  
00:28:56 Sen. Hamlett  
00:29:07 Mr. Lesh CCSA  
00:29:24 Sen. Ripley  
00:30:25 Kathy McGowan, MCAA, MPOA  
00:33:26 Sen. Ripley

00:33:54 Kathy McGowan, MCA, MPOA  
00:34:12 Sen. Hamlett  
00:34:35 Mr. Grainger, DOL  
00:35:03 Sen. Hamlett  
00:35:13 Mr. Grainger, DOL  
00:37:41 Sen. Hamlett  
00:38:01 Mr. Grainger, DOL  
00:38:44 Sen. Hamlett  
00:39:01 Mr. Grainger, DOL  
00:40:20 Sen. Hansen  
00:41:48 Mr. Grainger, DOL

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:42:56 Sen. Steinbeisser

**HEARING ON SB 204**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:44:39 Senator Lynda Moss, Senate District 26

**SEN. LYNDIA MOSS (D), SD 26**, opened the hearing on **SB 204**, Montana Centennial Farm and Ranch Program.

**EXHIBIT**(ags13a02)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:46:55 Clere Jiusto, Executive Director, Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA)

**EXHIBIT**(ags13a03)

00:52:07 Ariel Overstreet, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSA) and Montana Cattle Women Association (MCWA)  
00:53:21 Chris Christiaens, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)  
00:54:48 Kate Hampton, National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP)  
00:58:03 Kurt Synness, Ranch Owner

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:01:34 Richard Sims, Director, National Historical Society (NHS)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:05:05 Sen. Ripley  
01:05:23 Sen. Moss  
01:05:59 Sen. Steinbeisser  
01:06:31 Sen. Moss  
01:06:56 Sen. Steinbeisser  
01:07:30 Sen. Moss  
01:07:40 Sen. Brown  
01:08:07 Mr. Sims, NHS  
01:08:43 Sen. Brown  
01:08:56 Mr. Sims, NHS  
01:09:03 Sen. Brown  
01:09:21 Mr. Sims, NHS  
01:10:06 Sen. Hansen  
01:11:03 Mr. Sims, NHS  
01:11:56 Denise King, Administrator, Centralized Services (CS)  
01:12:12 Sen. Hamlett  
01:12:44 Mr. Sims, NHS  
01:13:38 Sen. Hamlett  
01:13:50 Mr. Sims, NHS  
01:14:03 Sen. Brown  
01:14:56 Ms. Juisdo, MRA  
01:18:35 Sen. Hamlett  
01:18:58 Mr. Sims, NHS  
01:19:28 Sen. Hamlett  
01:19:39 Mr. Sims NHS  
01:19:45 Sen. Hamlett  
01:19:53 Mr. Sims, NHS  
01:20:11 Sen. Murphy  
01:20:38 Mr. Sims NHS

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:21:10 Sen. Moss

**HEARING ON SJ 11**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:23:27 **SEN. JOHN BRUEGGEMAN (R), SD 6**, opened the hearing on **SJ 11**, Request Congress fund bioproduct innovation centers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:25:08 Joel Clairmont, Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA)

01:26:27 Jan Tusick, Lake County Community Development and  
Mission Mountain Food Enterprise Center (LCCD) (MMFEC)  
01:28:17 Chris Christiaens, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)  
01:29:55 Billie Lee, Executive Director, Lake County Development  
(LCD)  
01:32:56 Adam de Yong, Director, Montana's Wired Program (MWP)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:34:11 Sen. Ripley  
01:34:23 Mr. Clairmont, MDA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:34:52 Sen. Brueggeman  
01:37:06 Sen. Steinbeisser

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 68**

01:38:43 Sen. Hansen  
01:39:05 Sen. Steinbeisser  
01:39:20 Sen. Jackson

01:39:55 **Motion:** SEN. MURPHY moved that **SB 68 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

01:40:44 Sen. Jackson  
01:40:51 Sen. Steinbeisser  
01:41:01 Sen. Ripley  
01:41:52 Sen. Brown  
01:42:17 Sen. Steinbeisser  
01:42:26 Sen. Murphy  
01:42:51 Sen. Hamlett  
01:43:29 Sue O'Connell, Legislative Council  
01:44:08 Sen. Brown  
01:44:37 Sen. Larsen

01:45:19 **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Discussion:**

01:45:40 Sen. Jackson  
01:46:03 Sen. Steinbeisser

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 167**

Without objection, the committee began executive action with a motion to Amend SB 167.

01:47:28 **Motion:** SEN. JACKSON moved to **AMEND SB 167**.

**EXHIBIT** (ags13a04)

**Discussion:**

01:48:44 Sen. Hamlett  
01:50:45 Sue O'Connell, LC  
01:51:21 Sen. Steinbeisser

01:51:29 **VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

01:51:44 **Motion:** SEN. JACKSON moved that **SB 167 DO PASS AS AMENDED**.

**Discussion:**

01:52:15 Sen. Brown  
01:54:29 Sen. Larsen  
01:55:14 Sue O'Connell, LC  
01:55:51 Sen. Hamlett  
01:56:12 Sue O'Connell, LC  
01:56:29 Sen. Braney  
01:57:09 Sen. Steinbeisser  
01:57:21 Sen. Brown  
01:57:58 Sen. Jackson

01:58:29 Without objection Sen. Jackson withdrew **DO PASS AS AMENDED** motion.

01:58:59 Sen Steinbeisser

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:05 P.M.

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JOAN LINKENBACH, Secretary

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**Additional Exhibits:**

**EXHIBIT** ([ags13a05](#))

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT** ([ags13aad.pdf](#))